THE STATE OF MONTANA	FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
Commissioner of Political Practices	RECEIVED	RECT		
1205 Eighth Avenue		TOTARKED		
Post Office Box 202401	2014 MAY 22 A 9:	27914 MAY 2 MAY 2 0 2014		
Helena, MT 59620-2401 Phone: 406-444-2942		MAY 2 U ZUI4		
Fax: 406-444-1643	POLITICAL SCIENCES	COMMIS		
www.politicalpractices.mt.gov	PULL, U.S. AND INC	<u> </u>		
Campaign Finance and F	Practices	HAND DELIVERED		
		CERTIFIED MAIL		
Complaint Form (10/09)		SIGNED/NOTARIZED		
Type or print in ink all information on the		ature		
Person bringing complaint (Con	nplainant):			
Complete Name	Trap Free Montana Public Lands	······································		
Complete Mailing Address	PO Box 1347			
	Hamilton MT 59840			
Phone Numbers: Work	406-218-1170 Hor	ne		
Person or organization against		·		
Complete Name	Montana Trappers Association/Montanans for Effective Wildlife Mgt			
Complete Mailing Address	PO Box 129 / PO Box 133			
	Ovando MT 59854 / Gilford MT	59525		
Phone Numbers: Work	406-793-5718 / 406-376-3178 Home 406-793-5885			
Please complete	the second page of this form	and describe in		
detail	the facts of the alledged viola	tion.		
Verif	cation by oath or affirmat	ion		
State of Montana, County of	Parall.			
LIKC YORK		state that the information in this		
I,, being duly sworn, state that the information in this Complaint is complete, true, and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.				
TO Chalo				
Signature of Complainant				
NO IARY PUBLIC TO THE				
SEAL Residing at Stevensville, My Commission Expir	Subscribed and sw	form to before me this $\frac{19^{10}}{100}$ day of		
February 26, 2017	may	2014.		
1		12-		
	Notary Public			
My Commission Eynires	Notally Fublic			

Statement of facts:

Describe in detail the alleged violation(s) and cite the statute or statutes you believe have been violated. Please attach copies of documentary evidence to support the facts alleged in your statement.

If the space provided below is insufficient, you may attach additional pages as necessary.

This complaint is against Montana Trappers Association and/or Montanans for Effective Wildlife Management for what we believe are violations of the following campaign statues from reporting periods:

January 1 through March 5, 2014 March 6 through April 5, 2014 April 6 through May 5, 2014

Documentation attached.

Violation of statute 1337229 subsection 2 auction items collected.

Violation of statute 4410519 All earmarked contributions.

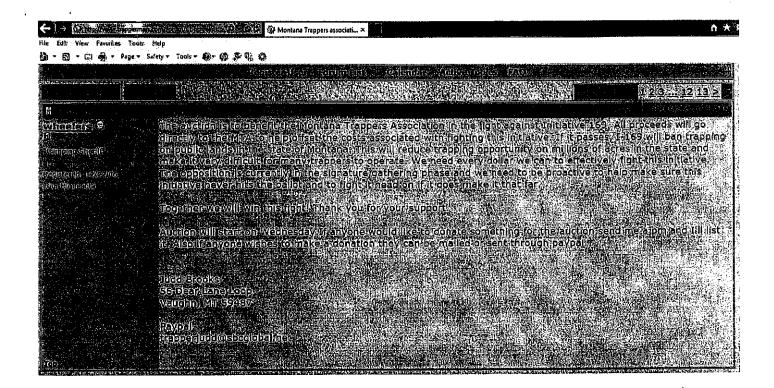
Violation of statue 1337217 Solicted contribution reporting.

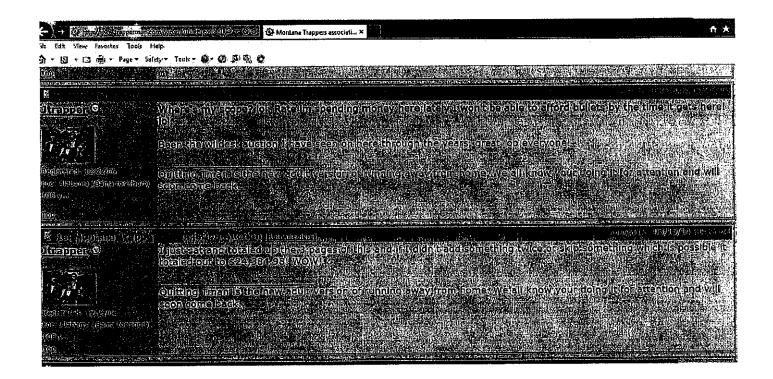
"The auction is to benefit the Montana Trappers Association in the fight against Initiative I-169. All proceeds will go directly to the MTA to help offset the costs associated with fighting this initiative." 2/24/14

"I just sat and totaled up to 3 pages of this and if I didn't add something twice or skip something which is possible it totaled out to \$24,384.98! WOW!" 3/15/14

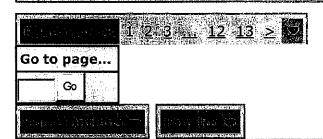
5 Gun Sweepstakes Ongoing

Montana Trappers Association Fundraising DEANO'S Bar & Casino 4/25/14





Register User EsonomPust a Medianta M/AsdVetnobles (EAQ)



wheelers:

Ragiskarad: 1*21/22/1*06 Vog: Minatsolta The auction is to benefit the Montana Trappers Association in the fight against Initiative 169. All proceeds will go directly to the MTA to help offset the costs associated with fighting this initiative. If it passes, I-169 will ban trapping on public lands in the state of Montana. This will reduce trapping opportunity on millions of acres in the state and make it very difficult for many trappers to operate. We need every dollar we can to effectively fight this initiative. The opposition is currently in the signature gathering phase and we need to be proactive to help make sure this initiative never hits the ballot and to fight it head on if it does make it that far.

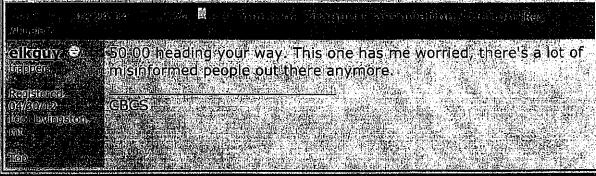
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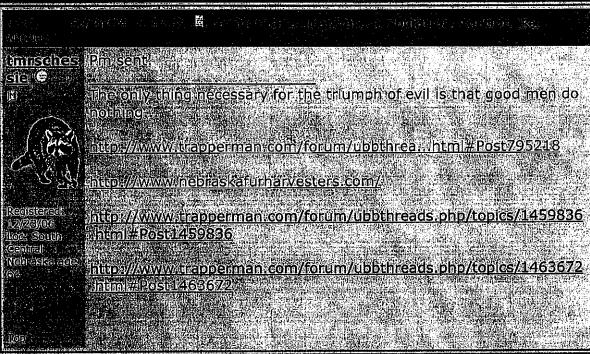
Together we will win this fight! Thank you for your support.

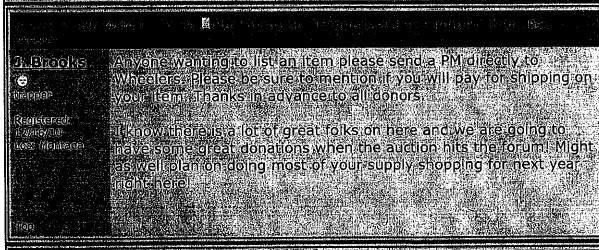
Auction will start on Wednesday. If anyone would like to donate something for the auction, send me a pm and I'll list it. Also if anyone wishes to make a donation they can be mailed or sent through paypal.

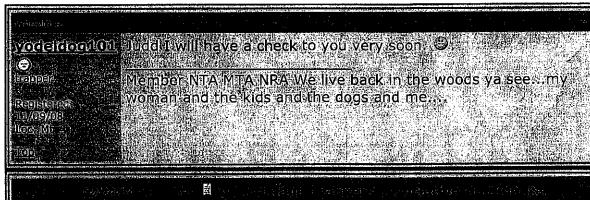
ljudd Brooks 156 Dear Lane Loop Vaughn, MT 59487

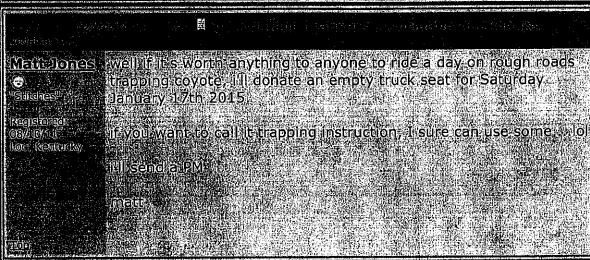
kaypa: trapperjudd@sbcglobal;net: ☴::

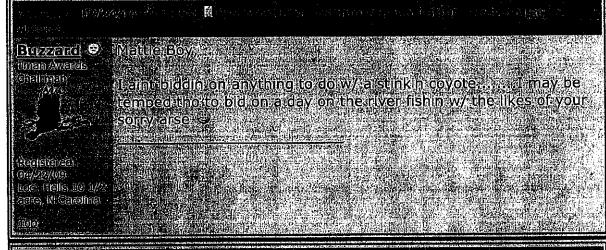


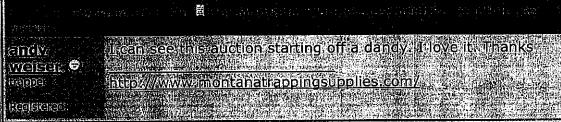


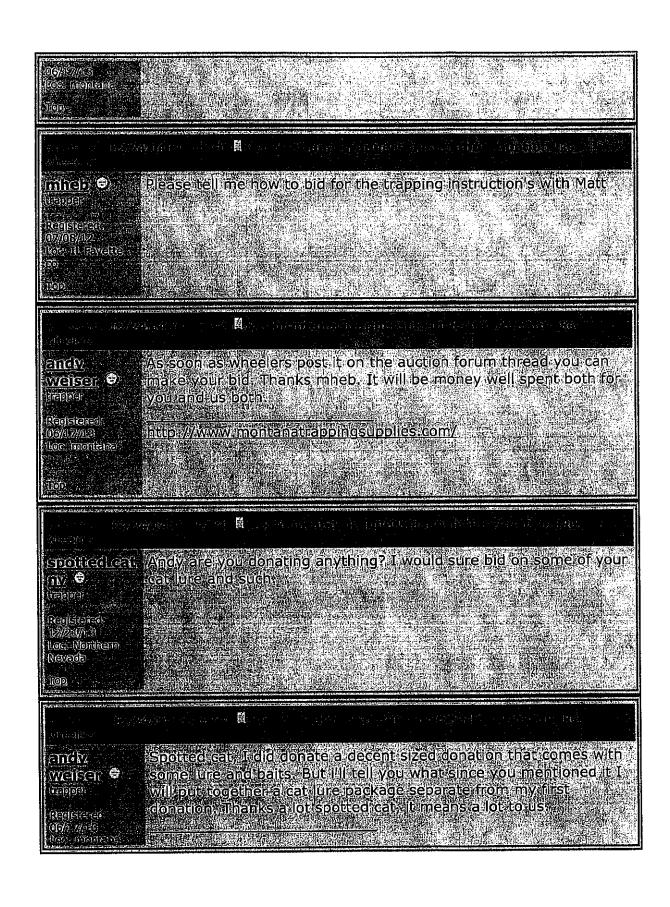


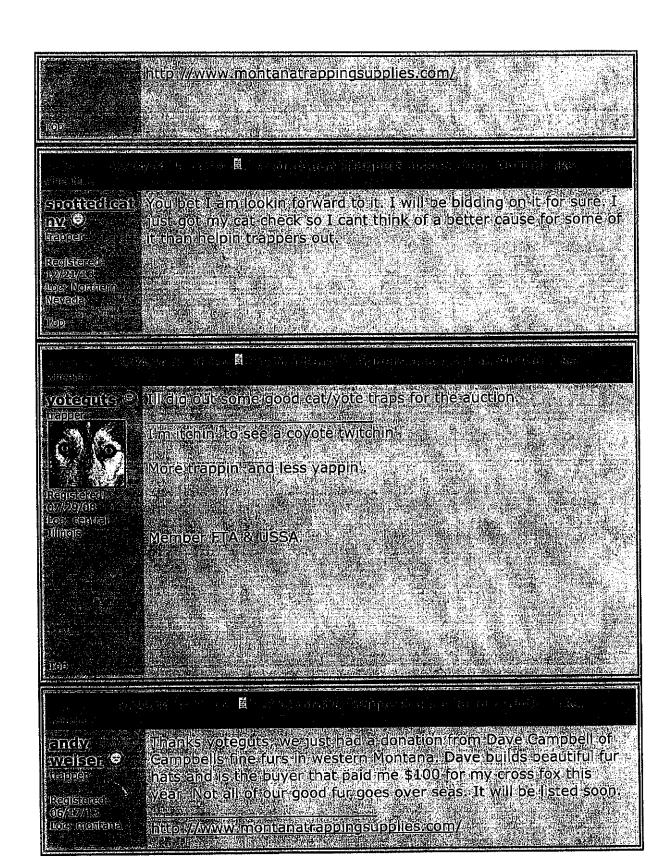


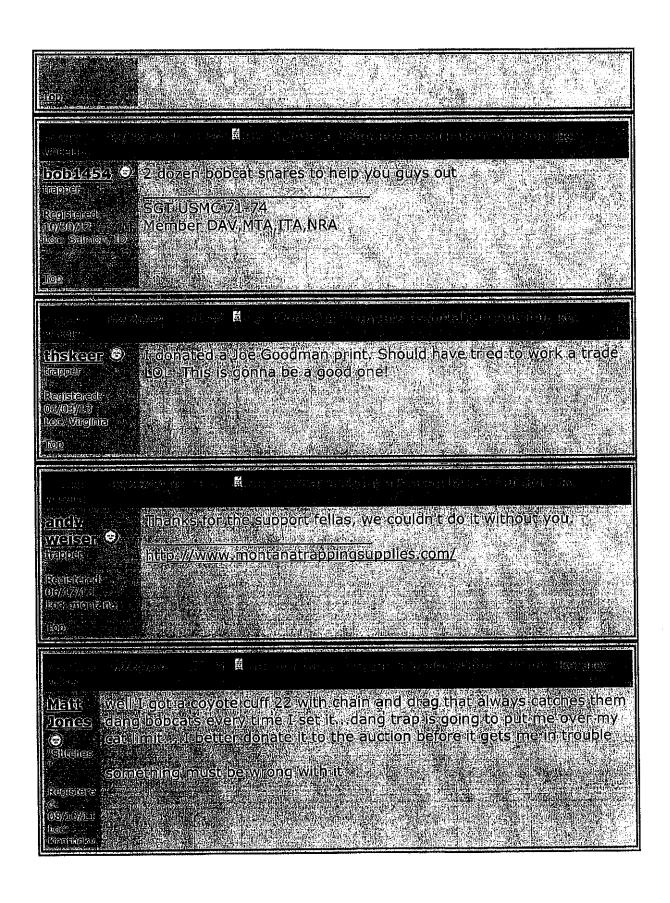


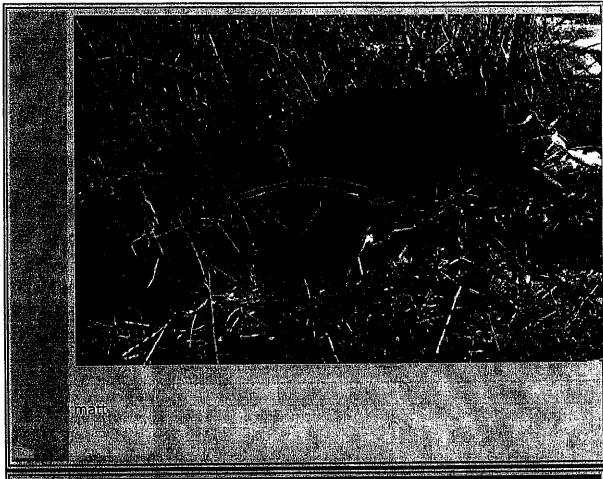


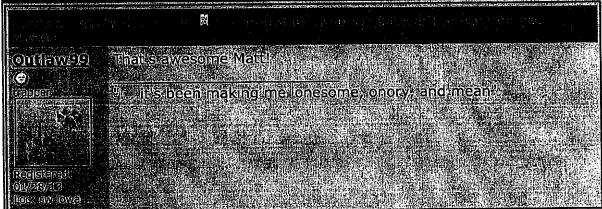


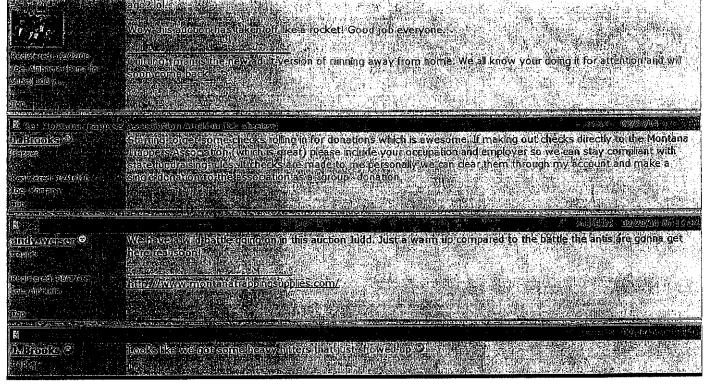


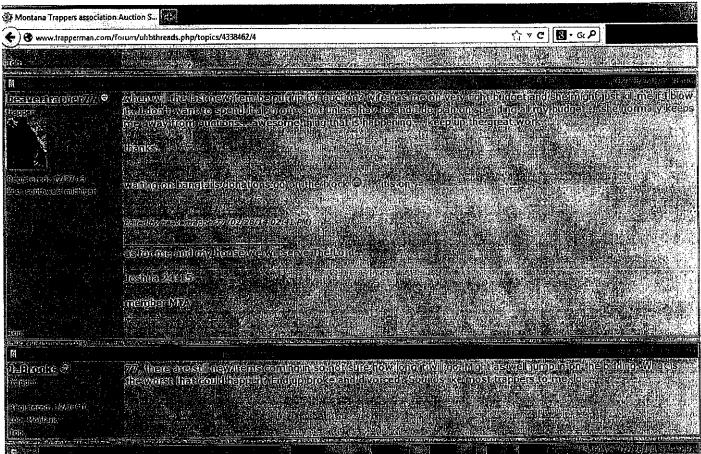


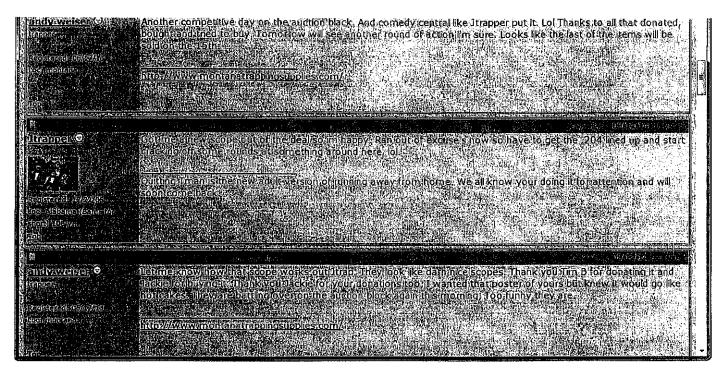


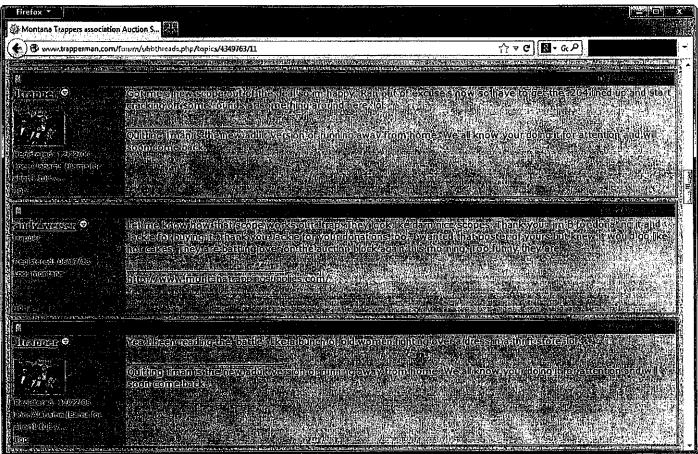


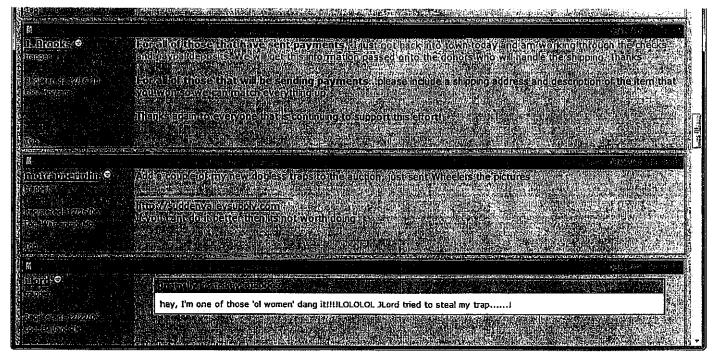


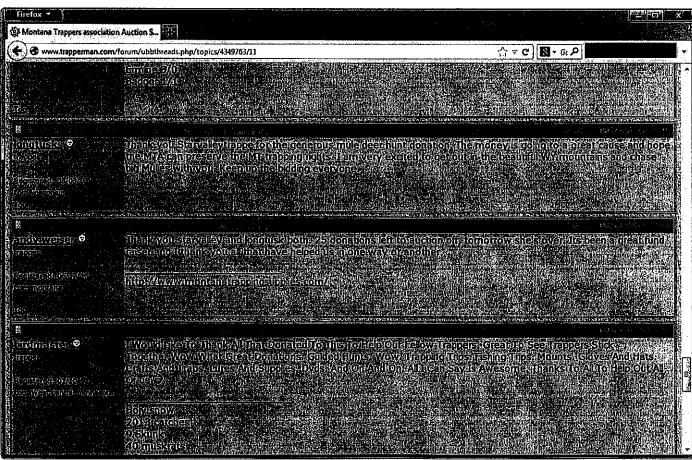


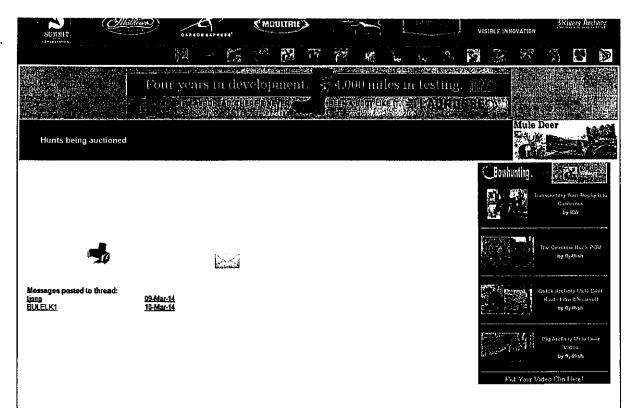












There are some hunts being auctioned off to raise money for the Montana trappers association to fight the anti trapping bill being introduced this fall.

The bill wants to ban trapping on all public property.

The hunts being offered are on trapperman.com

One fully guided black bear hunt in MN. for two.

One awesome 7 day fully guided mule deer hunt in Wyoming non-resident area G or H-resident area 144-145. There are pictures of harvested animals so one can judge quality.

You will have to become a member to trapperman to view the auctions. It may take a day or to, to go thru as the site owner Paul Dobbins reviews all applications to weed out possible anti's from signing up.

There are a lot of other items being auctioned off as well.

Use weapon of choice.

Also check out the Yukon hunting video 117 minutes long it is awesome.

All monles raised will go to MTA.

Please help fellow outdoorsman fight the enemy.

From BULELK1 date 10-Mail-14

BULELK1's Supporting Link

Here is a quick link for ya man.

Good luck, Robb



- Moultrie's New M-1100i sets the bar again!
- → Dead Down Wind supports the PY Club
- USFWS expected to suspend Elephant Imports
- New York budget legalizes Crossbows
- CT Legislature passes first hurdle toward Sunday Hunting

₩hat is this page?
This is a single thread into page for "Montana Trappers association Auction STARTED" under "Trapper Talk | Trapperman com Forums" section on

If is a snippet summary report that shows the thread statistics about the authors and post activity.

Thread: Montana Trappers association Auction STARTED

Thread Statistics:

Site: Forum: trapperman.com - latest threads Trapper Talk | Trapperman com Forums

Total authors:

8 authors

Total thread

10 posts

Analysis

The sentiment of the discussion is negative. The discussion is quite engaging and quite controversial. It got traction. We find the

Main topic started 1 month ago

Saturday, March 15, 2014, 06:15

Hope we kick butt on the antis »

▲ Dale Torma

Thread Replies

Post 1: Nontana Trappers association Auction STARTED | Salurday March 15, 2014, 08.25

this was really neat to watch....tried bidding but out of my league....great to see this many people come together for a good cause... Andy Im just curious if the total amount raised will be posted? not that the final number matters as much as the willingness of people to help when it matters....just curious. »

Post 7. Nontana Trappers association Auction STARTED 1 Saturday March 15, 2014, 09:27

Control Marketine Control Cont

Boy I get beat up over there the last couple days!;) >>

Post 3: Nontana Transpers association Auction STARTED 1 Salurday March 15, 2014, 98 29

Yea it would be neat to see the total raised. »

and the second s

Post 4; Wonlana Trappers association Auction STARTED | Salurday, March 15, 2014, 08 43

I'm sure we will have a total when its all said and done. Judd and wheelers have a lot to do getting all the payment and shipping straightened out, it will total a unbelievable amount i do know that much »

and the state of the section of the Post 5; Montara Trappers association Auction STARTED | Saturday, March 15, 2514, 09:42

Where's my scope? lot, Rate im spending money here lately I won't be able to afford bullets by the time it gets here! ldl. Been the wildest auction I have seen on here through the years, great job everyone! >

& Jirapper

Post 6 Muniana Trappers association Auction STARTED 1 Saturday, March 15, 2014, 00:19

والمرابع والمرابع والمحارض والمتعارض والمتعارض

The Mark College of the

I just sat and totaled up the 3 pages of this and if I didn't add something twice or skip something which is possible it totaled out to \$24,384,98! WOW! >>

Post 7; Nonlana Trappars association Auction STARTED | Saturday, March 15, 2014, 00:33 Wow Jirap That is Awesome. Holy snow 2013 catches 9 Skunk 40 muskrats 16 coon 9 mink 18 beaver 2 fisher 1 otter 1 badger 0 weasel 14 coyote 0 Bobcat 7 fox »

Users latest posts:

User Name	Posts
Date Torma	1
J Erooks	1
Jtrapper	2
Lews k	2
Ms Cal	1
andy weiser	1
beavertrapper77	1
birdmaster	1

Related Threads:

The passover and our salvation Stealth Cam E28 Help

A must read for Muslim women! **Butterfly Bush Planting Advice**

Pigeon guys

Pine Warhter Observers

The official Starley Cup trash talkin' thread.

Welders?

Best fish for bad.

Checking traps with dirt bike ?

Post 8: Montaga Trappers association Auction STARTED | Saturday March 15, 2014, 00 47 We have also received some straight cash donations and a few guys are overpaying for their items We will be bumping right against \$25K by the time this is all said and done, Amazing effort guys! »

Montana Trappers Association Is Putting the FUN in FUNdraising this Friday!

by angelamontana - Leave a Comment

If you will be in the Missoula area this Friday, be sure to pencil in the Montana Trappers Association Education Event into your schedule!

Knowledge IS power, and education is so important for everything you do in life! Join the Montana Trapp Association for an upcoming FUNdraiser at Deano's Casino on Friday, April 25th to benefit trapp education!

Do you think you're fast at setting traps? Show off your skills during the trap-setting competition! Do y think your voice could win a karaoke contest? Sing for a purpose at Deano's on April 25th! Do you far yourself a pool shark? Then, you definitely want to participate in the pool competition!

Raffles, prizes, fun..and more fun! Be prepared for a whole lot of trapping-themed fun! What a great way start your weekend! See you at Deano's Casino and Bar at 5318 W. Harrier Street, off of Airway Blvd., n the airport—just off of I-90 at 6:00pm this Friday, April 25th!

For more information on the event, click here, and follow the Montana Trappers Association on Facebool by clicking here.







Like Comment Share

△30 ₩6 ₩1



Montana Trappers Association shared a link. D January 15 th

Trapping problem beavers is the most effective way of protecting the public from potential disasters. Problem beaver situations may include an impoundment threatening downstream property, upstream flooding of land, trees or crops killed or ... See More





Like · Comment · Share

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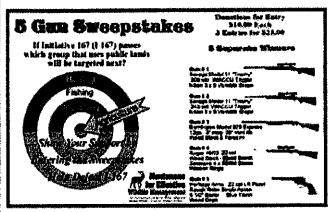


Montana Trappers Association

O January 28 #

5 Gun Sweepstakes: proceeds go to fight the 2014 ban on Montana trapping. Show your support by entering the sweepstakes. More details at:

http://www.montanatrappers.org/



Like · Comment · Share

🖒 8 🕡 1 👺 2



Montana Trappers Association

January 15 💆



Montana Trappers Association

April 14 😝

You can help the MTA and Montanans for Effective Wildlife Management defeat I-169 by making a financial donation. For every donation of \$10.00 or more you will be entered to win one of 5 guns. Residents and nonresidents are eligible.

Visit: http://www.montanatrappers.org/ and click on the Buy Now to donate



Like · Comment · Share

r**∆**6 ∰ 11



Like · Comment · Share

£∆12



www.montanaoutdoor.com/2014/04/montana-trappers-association-is-putting-the-fun-in-fundraising-this-friday/

HOME

MONTANA HUNTING

MONTANA FISHING

CAPS COLUMN

RECIPES

MEDIA

For more information on the event, click here, and follow the Montana Trappers Association on Facebook by clicking here.



PROCEEDS PROM EVENT WILL GO TO TRAPPERS EDUCATION



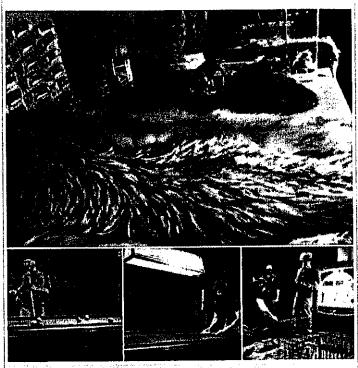
Montana Trappers Associ... Timeline *

2014 -



Montana Trappers Association April 27 谷

Over 20 people showed up on Friday night's Montana Trappers Association Education Event at Deano's Casinol Thank you to all of you who attended and/or participated in the pool tournament, the trap-setting contest and the karaoke contest, a... See More (11 photos)



Like Comment Share



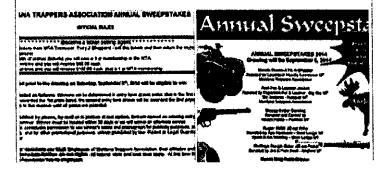
An AWESOME way to support the Montana Trappers Association, AND to even possibly win AMAZING prizes, is to purchase tickets for our 2014 Annual Sweepstakes!!

At just \$1.00 per ticket, 6 tickets for \$5.00 and \$10.00 for a book of 14 tickets, how could you resist?

Win anything from guns, a skinner knife and a predator caller to a FOUR WHEELER, an antier carving and MORE!

Check out the rules and the attached item descriptions. If you are interested in purchasing tickets, send us a Facebook message! We will also have tickets available at our Montana P.L.U.S. event on May 31st at the Missoula County Fairgrounds!

You can't win if you don't enter, so get your tickets now for your chance(s) to win!



Recent

-

May E 藝

Montana resident and MTA member Tom Oar is back for his 3rd season of Mountain Men. Season premier June 1st at 9/8c on the History Channel

Mountain Men S3 | Sunday, June 1st at 9/8c Who wouldn't want to live for a living? The Mountain Men have mastered the art.

Don't miss season 3, coming June 1st at 9/8c on HISTORY.



Ulter - Comment - Straige

3 2

🖒 II people the this



A couple of Montana Trappers Association members went to an Improvishow in Missoula recently, and one of the topics that was brought up when the comedians asked for audience input was trapping! This, however, led to another audience member ... See More



Montana Trappers Association

May 5 Street &

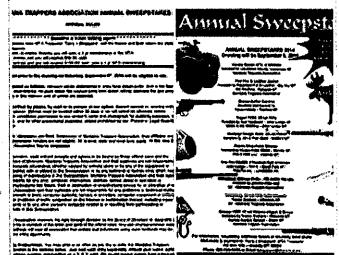
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You can't win if you don't enter, so get your tickets now for your chance(s) to win!



COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES



STATE OF MONTANA

JONATHAN R. MOTL COMMISSIONER TELEPHONE (406) 444-2942 FAX (406) 444-1643 1205 EIGHTH AVENUE PO BOX 202401 HELENA, MONTANA 59620-2401 www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

August 7, 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL Return Receipt Requested

Christoper Justice PO Box 8884 Missoula, MT. 59807

Subject:

Complaint received August 7, 2014; Justice v. Montana

Trappers Association/Montanans for Effective Wildlife

Management, COPP-2014-CFP-023

Dear Mr. Justice:

Your complaint alleging violation of Montana campaign finance and practices laws appears to conform to the requirements of 44.10.307(2), ARM. A copy of the complaint will be sent to the respondents above.

Because your complaint involves the same respondent and presents issues similar to an earlier complaint (MTF v. Montana Trappers Association/Montanans for Effective Wildlife Management, COPP-2014-CFP-023) it is being joined with and assigned the same complaint number as the earlier complaint. Investigation has not yet begun on this matter so there is no prejudice to any party by such action.

Please feel free to call if you have any questions or concerns on this issue.

Sincerely,

Jonathan R Motl

Commissioner of Political Practices

C MTF MTA, MEWM

THE STATE OF MONTANA

Commissioner of Political Practices

1205 Eighth Avenue Post Office Box 202401 Helena, MT 59620-2401 Phone: 406-444-2942

Fax: 406-444-1643

www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

Postmarked

AUG 0 5 2014

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
2014 AUG - 7 A 9:38
HAND DELIVERED CERTIFIED MAIL
SIGNED/NOTARIZED

Campaign Finance and Practices

Complaint Form (10/09)

Type or print in ink all information on this form except for verification signature

Person bringing complaint (Complainant):				
Complete Name	Christopher Justice			
Complete Mailing Address	P.O. Box 8884, Missoula, MT	59807		
Phone Numbers: Wo	rk 406-274-1069	Home 406-274-1069		
Person or organization agai	nst whom complaint is brough	nt (Respondent):		
Person or organization agai Complete Name	-	nans For Effective Wildlife Management		
	James Buell, Treasurer, Montar	nans For Effective Wildlife Management		
Complete Name	James Buell, Treasurer, Montar and Treasurer for Montana Tray P.O. Box 133, Gildford, MT 595	nans For Effective Wildlife Management		

Please complete the second page of this form and describe in datail the feets of the elledged violeties

detail the facts of the alleaged violation.				
Verification by oath or affirmation				
State of Montana, County of Missoul	<u>6</u> ,			
I, Cheistopher Justice Complaint is complete, true, and correct	, being duly sworn, state that the information in this t, to the best of my knowledge and belief.			
(SEAL)	Signature of Complainant			
KELSEY DUBOIS NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana Residing at Huson, Montana My Commission Expires July 31, 2017	Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of August, 2014			
My Commission Expires: July 31, 2017				

Statement of facts:

Describe in detail the alleged violation(s) and cite the statute or statutes you believe have been violated. Please attach copies of documentary evidence to support the facts alleged in your statement.

If the space provided below is insufficient, you may attach additional pages as necessary.

Below are listed three violations. Following is a list of statutes that apply to all three violations.

- 1. The Montana Trappers Association's PAC (Political Action Committee) listed many businesses and non-profit organizations as "supporting saying no to I-169." It is illegal for 501(c)(3) nonprofits to support a specific political initiative or candidate. The 501(c)(3) organizations are: Ducks Unlimited, The Montana Outfitters and Guides Association, Ravalli County Fish and Wildlife Association, The Missoula Food Bank and the Montana Trappers Association, a nonprofit but not a 501(c)(3). The Food Bank wrote a letter immediately upon learning it is listed asking to be removed immediately. Famous Dave's and Big Sky Brewers responded that they do not support this political cause and had no idea they were listed as supporters. Both asked for their logos to be removed. Other organizations have either not responded or not been contacted yet.
- 2. Jason Maxwell, Vice President, West, for the Montana Trappers' Association, used materials and a trailer owned by Fish, Wildlife and Parks to raise funds to oppose I-169. FWP spokesman Aasheim wrote in an email that FWP had no knowledge of Maxwell's taking and using their animal mounts, tables, information and trailer at all, much less for political purposes--incredible as that seems.
- 3. The Montana Trappers Association, a nonprofit, but not a 501(c)(3), has featured on its website that it supports saying no to I-169, a political initiative.

On a separate page please find the statutes violated. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Complaints must be:

- signed
- notarized
- · delivered in person or by certified mail.

ARM 44.10.323 (Violation of) REPORTING EXPENDITURES: ARM 44.10.323 EXPENDITURE - DEFINITION

- (1) For the purposes of Title 13, chapters 35 and 37, MCA, and these rules the term "expenditure" as defined in 13-1-101, MCA, includes, but is not limited to:
- (a) Each expenditure as listed in 13-37-230, MCA;
- (b) Expenses incurred by a candidate or political committee with respect to polls, surveys, and the solicitation of funds;
- (c) Expenses incurred in support of or opposition to the drafting, printing, distribution and collection of signatures for any petition for nomination or a statewide ballot issue;
- (d) A candidate's own expense, except as provided in 13-1-101(6) (b) (iv) and (10) (b) (ii), MCA;
- (e) Payment of interest on a loan or other credit received;
- (f) An in-kind expenditure, as defined in (2) of this rule.
- (2) The term "in-kind expenditure" means the furnishing of services, property, or rights without charge or at a charge which is less than fair market value to a person, candidate, or political committee for the purpose of supporting or opposing any person, candidate, ballot issue or political committee, except as provided in 13-1-101(6) (a) (iii) and (6) (b) (i), MCA.
- **MCA 13-35-103. Violations as misdemeanor.** A person who knowingly violates a provision of the election laws of this state for which no other penalty is specified is guilty of a misdemeanor.

MCA 45-8-212. Criminal defamation. (1) Defamatory matter is anything that exposes a person or a group, class, or association to hatred, contempt, ridicule, degradation, or disgrace in society or injury to the person's or its business or occupation.

- (2) Whoever, with knowledge of its defamatory character, orally, in writing, or by any other means, including by electronic communication, as defined in 45-8-213, communicates any defamatory matter to a third person without the consent of the person defamed commits the offense or criminal defamation and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than 6 months in the county jail or a fine of not more than \$500, or both.
 - (3) Violation of subsection (2) is justified if:
 - (a) the defamatory matter is true;
 - (b) the communication is absolutely privileged;
- (c) the communication consists of fair comment made in good faith with respect to persons participating in matters of public concern;
- (d) the communication consists of a fair and true report or a fair summary of any judicial, legislative, or other public or official proceedings; or
- (e) the communication is between persons each having an interest or duty with respect to the subject matter of the communication and is madwith the purpose to further the interest or duty.

MCA 13-35-204. Official misconduct. A person charged with performance of any duty under the provisions of the election laws of this state is guilty of official misconduct and is punishable as provided in 45-7-401 whenever the person:

(1) knowingly neglects or refuses to perform that duty; or

(2) knowingly and fraudulently acts, in the person's official capacity, ir contravention or violation of any provision of the election laws.

MCA 45-7-208. Tampering with public records or information. (1) A person commits the offense of tampering with public records or information if the person:

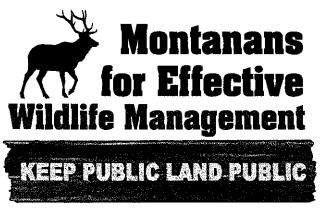
(a) knowingly makes a false entry in or false alteration of any record, document, legislative bill or enactment, or thing belonging to or received issued, or kept by the government for information or record or required by law to be kept by others for information of the government;

(b) makes, presents, or uses any record, document, or thing knowing it to be false and with purpose that it be taken as a genuine part of information or records referred to in subsection (1)(a);

(c) purposely destroys, conceals, removes, or otherwise impairs the verity or availability of a record, document, or thing; or

(d) purposely or knowingly misrepresents the person's identity or the use for which personal information is sought in order to obtain personal information from a motor vehicle record under 61-11-507, 61-11-508, or 61-11-509.

(2) A person convicted of the offense of tampering with public records or information shall be imprisoned in the state prison for a term not to exceed 10 years or be fined an amount not to exceed \$50,000, or both.





Montana Trappers Association bringing awareness.

NO on I-169

Julia Pannandi Alimani Jaka Jama do Papay Wandara Buli be kanak

HOME

ABOUT I-169

SUPPORTERS

EVENTS

CONTACT US

JOIN M.E.W.M. AND THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS IN SUPPORTING SAYING

NO TO 1-169









































































KIT'S TACKLE ®

TO RESERVE YOUR BOOTH AT THE MONTANA PLUS EVENT, OR TO DONATE, CLICK HERE.

Website paid for by Montanans for Effective Wildlife Management * Jim Buell, Treasuere * PO Box 133, Gildford, MT 59525

yo @ no on 160 com

FWP: Trappers did not have permission to use state equipment to oppose ballot initiative

Posted: 07 Jul 2014 07:42 AM PDT

This morning a spokesperson for the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks clarified that, as I had suspected in an earlier post, the trappers did not have permission to use state equipment to oppose I-169, a ballot initiative to ban the inhumane and unnecessary practice of trapping.

Here's the email from the FWP clarifying their position:

-- From: Aasheim, Ron < raasheim@mt.gov > Date: Monday, July 7, 2014 Subject: Seeking clarification on FWP position on trappers using FWP trailer to campaign against a ballot measure To: "mntnacowgirl@gmail.com" <mntnacowgirl@gmail.com> Cc: "Toby Walrath (wildpride13@yahoo.com)" ---- Forwarded message -----<wildpride13@yahoo.com> Received your note requesting clarification on the MTA using the FWP furbearer display in their campaign against I 169.

We did not authorize the use of the trailer in conjunction with MTA efforts associated with I 169. We understand and respect the state statute that prohibits a public officer or employee from taking a position on a ballot issue. In the way of background the educational furbearer displays were purchased with federal dollars that were matched by in kind contributions from the Montana Trappers Association in the mid 1990s. Since then we have made the displays and associated trailer available for a number of events over the years including, in many cases, educational events of the Montana Trappers Association.

any FWP staff involved in any way. When we learned of the use we immediately called MTA President, Toby Walrath, and We were not aware that the MTA was using the displays in conjunction with their efforts associated with I 169 nor were

asked that they not display the trailer in a way that made it appear FWP was a part of their efforts regarding I 169 which we were not. Toby immediately agreed to our request and gave his membership that direction.

MONTANA COWGIRL

Posted: July 2, 2014 at 7:47 am

DESPICABLE

It's difficult to believe that the <u>needless maiming and</u> suffering inflicted on animals through the practice of trapping is still legal.

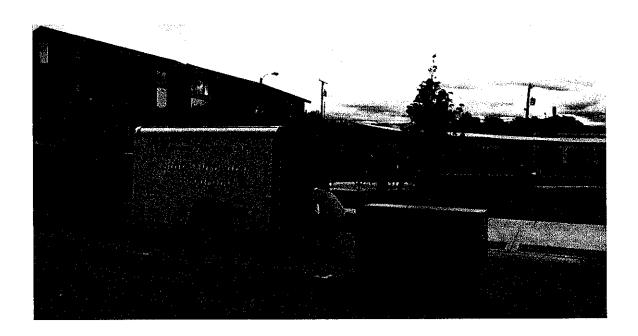
The American Veterinary Medical Association, the American Animal Hospital Association, the National Animal Control Association, and the World Veterinary Organization all have declared leghold traps to be inhumane. Animals, including pets, that get caught in leg hold taps can suffer for days. They have also been known to chew their legs off to try to get free from the trap after suffering, alive, in the trap for days.

But the Montana Trappers Association and their sidekick, the Orwellianly-named "Montanans for Effective Wildlife Management," aren't just promoting the cruel and completely unnecessary practice of trapping animals—they also appear to be using some pretty despicable tactics to keep trapping legal.

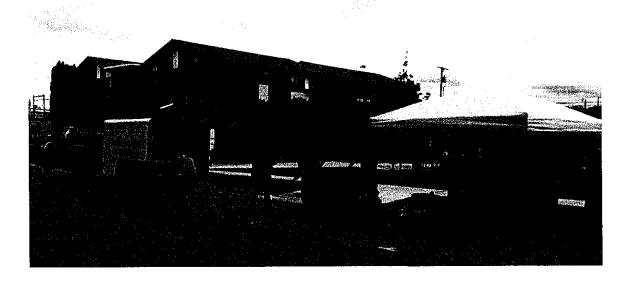
In fact, the two pro-trapping organizations are now

under investigation for alleged multiple violations of campaign finance and financial reporting. According to a complaint filed with the Montana Commissioner of Political Practices, the trappers held a big auction to raise money they said would be used to oppose the trapping ban. Yet a review of the organizations' filings with OPP shows that they never reported the \$25,000 in profits they claimed to have earned from the auctionin any of their PAC or incidental committee reports.

Then there are these photos, which appear to show MT Trappers Association Vice President Jason Maxwell using a FWP trailer and booth to display its materials and banner—their banner opposing the trapping ban initiative I-169. If this turns out to be the case, allowing the use of state resources in this manner this may be a violation of state ethics and political activity laws, because state agencies and public resources are not allowed to campaign to support or oppose ballot initiatives.



<img class="wp-image-18797 size-full" src="http://mtcowgirl.com/wpcontent/uploads/2014/07/mta-use-of-fwp-maxwell-unloading.jpg" alt="mta use of fwp
maxwell unloading" width="640" height="328" /> This June 14, 2014 photo appears
to show MT Trappers Association Vice President Maxwell (orange t-shirt) unloading
his equipment from the FWP trailer prior to the Hamilton Farmer's Market.



<img class="wp-image-18796 size-full" src="http://mtcowgirl.com/wpcontent/uploads/2014/07/mta-fwp-use-of-trailer-unload.jpg" alt="mta fwp use of trailer
unload" width="640" height="310" /> Here's another shot that appears to show
Maxwell unloading his booth equipment from the FWP trailer.



 And this photo appears to show Jason Maxwell in the finished booth, which boldly displays the "Vote NO on 1-169" message state agencies are prohibited from delivering. Photo taken June 14, 2014 in Hamilton, MT at the Farmer's Market.

Mr. Maxwell did not respond to a request for comment. Mr. Maxwell has responded in the comments, you can read his statement on this matter here. Perhaps someone from the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks will weigh in here on whether he had their permission to use state resources to campaign against I-169, which seems doubtful.

The Montana Trappers' Association's Political Action Committee and the Montanans for Efficient Wildlife Management has also claimed that the Missoula Food Bank is a supporter of their effort to keep a ban on trapping off the ballot-without the food bank's knowledge or permission.

In fact, a spokesperson for the Missoula Food Bank has asked that any reference to the food bank be immediately removed from any of the trappers' materials. In a letter to the Montana Trappers Association's leadership (pasted below the fold), the MT Food Bank Network stated that the organization was listed without it's knowledge and is not a supporter the campaign against I-169–indeed the Food Bank states that as a 501 c-3 and not a political action committee or incidental ballot committee they cannot oppose the trapping ban. You can see the Missoula Foodbank clearly listed as a supporter on this flyer: Montanans for Effective Wildlife Management – SUPPORTERS

One wonders if the other organizations listed year, including several other 501c-3s, are aware that their organizations are being used in this manner. Again, because 501 c-3s are not permitted to oppose or support ballot initiatives, it's not likely that they've actually joined the trappers in opposing 1-169. Cowgirl tipsters also report that Big Sky Brewery's co-owner Neal Leathers reportedly had no idea about this and had never even heard of this bunch.

You can read the Missoula Food Bank's letter asking that they be removed from the list of supporters below.

From: Jessica AllredSent: Tuesday, July 01, 2014 10:26 AMTo: 'VPWest@montanatrappers.org';

'PastPresident@montanatrappers.org';

'President@montanatrappers.org';

'info@montanatrappers.org'Cc: Cynthia

Lotty**Subject:** Missoula Food Bank listed on

websiteImportance: High

To Whom it May Concern:

It has come to our attention that Missoula Food Bank has been listed as a supporter of voting "No on I-169".

As a nonpartisan, 501 (c)3, we do not affiliate with any political campaigns, ballot initiatives or other politically-charged issues without deliberate action and vote by our board of directors. The issue of I-169 is outside of our mission, and would not be an issue that Missoula Food Bank's board would consider supporting or opposing.

We are asking that we be removed immediately from any information, online postings, print materials and other information you are producing, asking you to understand the risk at which it puts our organization that is serving 1 in 7 Missoulians. We rely on and appreciate the support of many diverse organizations and groups. So thank you for your support, but kindly,

please remove us as a listed "supporting" organization – as this was done without our knowledge or authorization.

Jessica AllredCommunity Relations
DirectorMissoula Food Bank – We Nourish
Community219 South Third Street West, Missoula,
MT 59801Office (406) 549-0543 cell: (406) 529-7111

www.missoulafoodbank.org / www.facebook.com/missoulafoodbank

Missoula Food Bank provides emergency food assistance to people and strives to reduce hunger. Last year, we provided assistance to 1 in 7 people in Missoula County. The support of our community makes this work possible, with more than 58% of our annual revenue coming from caring individuals and with more than 17,000 hours of donated time from 925 different volunteers each year. Learn more at www.missoulafoodbank.org



- . JULY 3, 2014 1:19 PMJan Thomasl wonder how many days this living creature suffered like this.... Reply JULY 3, 2014 5:54 PMRockyMissouriWhat a beautiful creature.. What harm did it cause in the world, to deserve this...? IMO man is the worst creature on earth.. It certainly isn't the animals.Reply
- . JULY 3, 2014 2:01 PMToby L WalrathOn behalf if the Montana Trappers Association I would like to state that the information provided by this blog post is filled with erroneous information and shows a complete lack of fact checking. There was a false complaint filed by KC York, however in 2010 KC York's organization was found guilty of violating

EXACTLY LIKE THIS that speak more clearly than ANY WORDS. Reply

JULY 4, 2014 - 1:06 PMKristil wonder why MTA doesn't post pics of what trapping really is about? No photos of animals caught, bashing them in the head or elsewhere, gutting, skinning....don't they want the public to see what they do? Couldn't they defend themselves better if they showed what they actually do? Or...would the public be (more) against them and their intimidation tactics, childish manners if MTA really showed what they do? Hmmm....Reply

40865 - LW 'ymossy

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